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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2723
INFO USLO PEKING
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AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY MANILA
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AMEMBASSY RANGOON
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SINAGPORE
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
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COMUSTDC
FBIS OKINAWA
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TAGS: ECRP, CH, XX

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SUBJECT: PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA -- ECONOMIC REVIEW 22

REF: CERP 0003

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1. SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD

IN AN APPARENT EFFORT TO STEM CONSUMER DISCONTENT (SEE ER 18, ITEM 4), LIGHT INDUSTRY IS BEING STRESSED (ITEM 2). ON THE OTHER HAND, PRODUCING FOR EXPORT IS SO IMPORTANT THAT ITS INPUTS ARE RECEIVING SPECIAL ALLOCATIONS AND PRICES AND BONUSES ARE BEING USED TO SPUR SUCH OUTPUT (HK 11780). A SERIES OF NATIONAL ECONOMIC CONFERENCES IS PROVIDING TWO-WAY COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE CENTER AND THE FIELD; NOT UNEXPECTEDLY, THE CENTRAL THEME IS INCREASING PRODUCTION (ITEM 3). THE BASIC TENSION BETWEEN INCREASING PRODUCTION AND PROMOTING REVOLUTION IS PERHAPS UNDERSCORED TO THE COMING KWANGTUNG POOR AND LOWER-MIDDLE PEASANT CONGRESS WHICH IT IS HOPED WILL HELP STAMP OUT "UNHEALTHY" ATTITUDES AMONG THE PEASANTRY. AGRICULTURAL PLANNING HAS RECEIVED EMPHASIS IN A RECENT ISSUE OF "STUDY AND CRITICISM;" STRESS
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HAS BEEN PLACED ON UPPING YIELDS, INCREASING MECHANIZATION AND LOWERING BIRTH RATES (ITEM 5). NEW ESTIMATES OF THE PRC'S EARNINGS FROM OIL EXPORTS PLACE THEM AT $500 MILLION THIS YEAR AND OVER $1 BILLION 1975 (HK 11763). THE LONG-AWAITED OCTOBER 29 INAUGURAL FLIGHT OF CAAC'S PEKING-KARACHI-PARIS RUN WAS MARRED BY DELAYS AND ARRIVED SEVEN AND A HLAF HOURS LATE; AFP ATTRIBUTED THE DELAYS TO OVER-FLIGHT CLEARANCE PROBLEMS (ITEM 6). THE DANISH PM, THE

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NORWEGIAN TRADE MINISTER, AND A DUTCH TRADE DELEGATION
ALL VISITED PEKING IN THE SECOND HALF OF OCTOBER (ITEM 7).
FIVE AGREEMENTS WITH NORTH VIETNAM, COVERING AID, TRADE AND
PUBLIC HEALTH, WERE SIGNED DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD
(ITEM 8). END SUMMARY

1. EMPHASIS ON LIGHT INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION FOR THE
CONSUMER.
A MAJOR EFFORT TO STIMULATE PRODUCTION IN LIGHT
INDUSTRY DURING THE FOURTH QUARTER APPEARS TO BE UNDER-
WAY IN THE PRC. SOME PROVINCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS, FOCUSING
ON "CORRECTING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN AGRICULTURE, LIGHT
INDUSTRY AND HEAVY INDUSTRY," HAVE ALMOST REACHED THE POINT
OF RECASTING THIS RELATIONSHIP IN FAVOR OF LIGHT INDUSTRY.
NUMEROUS, ALBEIT SCATTERED, BROADCASTS HAVE URGED
WORKERS AND CADRES TO INCREASE PRODUCTION IN LIGHT INDUSTRY
SO AS TO "MAKE DOMESTIC MARKETS MORE PROSPEROUS," MEET
THE "BASIC NEEDS OF DAILY LIFE," "INCREASE SOCIALIST AC-
COMULATION," (WHICH IMPLIES THAT FUNDS ARE SHORT AND RE-
FLECTS CONTRACTING INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT DURING THE FIRST HALF)
AND STRENTHEN THE "EXCHANGE OF MATERIALS BETWEEN URBAN
AND RURAL AREAS." IT IS OBVIOUS THAT PROBLEMS HAVE ARISEN
IN THESE AREAS AND THAT THE STATE IS REORDERING ITS PRIORIT
TIES--TEMPORARILY AT LEAST AND TO SOME EXTENT--TO MEET
THEM.
TO GIVE PRIORITY TO LIGHT INDUSTRY IN THE SUPPLY OF
CERTAIN RAW MATERIAL INPUTS, AS MOTS OF THE BROADCASTS
URGE, IMPLIES A WILLINGNESS TO ALLOW OTHER SECTORS TO
SUFFER THE COST. WITH THE MAIN FALL HARVEST IN, CURRENT
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION WILL BE LESS VULNERABLE THAN SOME
PARTS OF INDUSTRY IN THIS REGARD FOR THE NEXT SEVERAL
MONTHS.
THE EMPHASIS ONLIGHT INDUSTRY REFLECTS AN ATTENTION
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TO CURRENT CONSUMPTION NOT OFTEN EVIDENT IN PRC MEDIA
PLAY. THIS IS MATCHED BY OTHER MEDIA INDICATIONS OF
INCREASED CONCERN FOR CONSUMER INTERESTS THAT IN SOME
AREAS HAS LED TO THE SETTING UP OF MORE FLEXIBLE RETAIL
ORGANIZATIONS TO HANDLE CONSUMER DEMANDS. PARADOXICALLY,
THE OBJECTIVE COULD BE SAID TO BE TO CO-OPT CAPITALIST
TENDENCIES BY HEADING OFF CONSUMER DISCONTENT.
(UNCLASSIFIED)

3. NATIONAL CONFERENCES SEND DOWN THE LINE
A SERIES OF NATIONAL CONFERENCES ON ECONOMIC SUBJECTS
HAS INFORMED THE CENTER ABOUT CONDITIONS IN VARIOUS FIELDS
IN THE PROVINCES, PROVIDED CURRENT INFORMATION FOR USE IN
PLANNING FOR 1975, AND ALLOWED THE CENTER TO PASS ON
TO THE PROVINCES CURRENT EOCNOMIC POLICY AND PROBABLY

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IMMEDIATE (I.E. FOURTH-QUARTER) WORK TASKS. AT THE PROVINCE LEVEL, CONFERENCES AND REPORT MEETINGS ARE BEING USED TO CONVEY THE "SPIRIT OF THE RELEVANT CONFERENCES OF THE CENTER" "SZECHWAN RS OCTOBER 22) AND THE "ESSENCE OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE'S DIRECTIVE ON PRESENT INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION" (KWANGTUNG RS OCTOBER 18).
AS A "TSINGHAI DAILY" EDITORIAL PUT IT, CADRE SHOULD IMMEDIATELY WHIP UP AN UPSURGE IN GRASPING REVOLUTION AND PROMOTING PRODUCTION, A PROCESS IN WHICH CRITICISM OF LIN PIAO AND CONFUCIUS IS TO BE THE "KEY LINK" (RS OCTOBER 17). FOR ALL THE JARGON, THE NEXT PHRASE CATCHES THE ESSENCE OF THE CURRENT MESSAGE: THE "CENTRAL TASK" IS INCREASING PRODUCTION AND PRACTICING ECONOMY.
YUNNAN APPARENTLY STILL LAGS BEHIND. MOBILIZATION RALLY IN KUNMING CALLED ON VARIOUS AREAS AND DEPARTMENTS TO INSPECT IMMEDIATELY THEIR FULFILLMENT OF PLANS IN THE FIRST THREE-QUARTERS IN ORDER TO GET A GOOD GRIP ON PRODUCTION ARRANGEMENTS IN THE FOURTH QUARTER (RS OCTOBER 25).
(UNCLASSIFIED)

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4. KWANGTUNG PEASANT CONGRESS TO MEET
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KWANGTUNG'S PROVINCIAL CCP COMMITTEE HAS ISSUED A DIRECTIVE CALLING FOR THE CONVENING OF THE SECOND KWANGTUNG POOR AND LOWER-MIDDLE PEASANT (PLMP) CONGRESS. THE DIRECTIVE, REPORTED IN A PROVINCIAL BROADCAST OCTOBER 25, COMES EIGHT MONTHS AFTER THE ORIGINAL CALL IN FEBRUARY TO HOLD SUCH A CONFERENCE. NO DATE FOR BEGINNING THE CONGRESS WAS ANNOUNCED. IT WILL BE ONLY THE THIRD SUCH PROVINCE-LEVEL PLMP CONGRESS HELD IN THE PRC THIS YEAR AND ONLY THE SEVENTH SINCE THE 1973 NEW YEAR'S EDITORIAL CALLING FOR RE-ESTABLISHING MASS ORGANIZATINS.
PEASANT APATHY--AND PERHAPS RESISTANCE--COULD WELL HAVE SLOWED DOWN EFFORTS TO REORGANIZE THE RURAL AREAS. RELATIVELY UNTOUCHED BY THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST LIN AND CONFUCIUS, THE COUNTRYSIDE HAS NOT BEEN SERIOUSLY INVOLVED IN A MASS CAMPAIGN SINCE THE CULTRUAL REVOLUTION, AND AT LEAST SOME ELEMENTS AT THE CENTER MUST BE UNEASY ABOUT "UNHEALTHY" ATTITUDES AMONG THE RURAL POPULATION. RENEWED PARTY EFFORTS TOWARD RURAL ORGANIZATION UNDOUBTEDLY REFLECT THIS UNEASINESS. IT ALSO SETS THE STAGE FOR TIGHTER DISCIPLONE OVER THE RURAL AREAS THAT MAY BE NEEDED TO CARRY A MASS CAMPAIGN TO THE COUNTRYSIDE AND TO IMPLEMENT OTHER ASPECTS OF THE PARTY'S RURAL ECONOMIC POLICIES.
(LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

5. SHANGHAI AGAIN PRAISES PLANNING FOR 1980
SHANGHAI' "STUDY AND CRITICISM" NO. 9 CARRIES HIGHLIGHTS OF CHIATING COUNTY'S 30-POINT AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR 1974-1980 WHICH IS SIMILAR TO THE ONE FOR ITS HSINCHING BRIGADE THAT APPEARED IN ISSUED

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NO. 7 AND WAS REPRINTED IN "RED FLAG" NO. 8. BASED ON THE 1956-67 NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (NADP), THE NEW PLANS REFLECT BOTH ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN THE MEANTIME AND NEW EMPHASES FOR THE FUTURE. ON THAT BASIS, THEY SUGGEST THAT SATISFACTORY PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN EDUCATION, PUBLIC HEALTH, CREDIT FACILITIES, AND SOME KINDS OF AGRICULTURAL OUTPUT.
NOT SURPRISINGLY, THE NEW EMPHASES ARE ON IMPROVING YIELDS, INCREASING MECHANIZATION AND DECREASING BIRTH RATES. OFTEN GOALS ARE SPECIFICALLY STATED; FOR EXAMPLE, 1.5 PIGS PER MOU (A 26 PERCENT INCREASE) AND A BIRTH RATE OF 11 PER THOUSAND. PERHAPS MOST SIGNIFICANT IS
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THE PLANNING FOR MECHANIZATION WHICH INVOLVES NOT ONLY ROAD BUILDING BUT ALSO THE REALIGNING AND ENLARGING OF FIELDS.
IT IS HARD TO SEE HOW LAND DEMARCATION CAN BE HANDLED WITHOUT RUNNING INTO PROBLEMS WITH TEAMS AND QUESTIONS OF LEVELS OF OWNERSHIP. PERHAPS RELATED IS THE GOAL OF MORE PARTY CELLS AT THE TEAM LEVEL--AN OBVIOUS MEANS TO INCREASE PARTY CONTROL AND FEEDBACK. WHILE IT IS STATED THAT PROGRESS TOWARD THE VARIOUS GOALS IS TO BE MADE GRADULALLY, SOME OBJECTIVES ARE SET FOR 1975--THE END OF THE CURRENT FIVE YEAR PLAN--THAT WOULD SEEM TO REQUIRE INCREASE EFFORTS IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

6. CAAC INAUGURAL FLIGHT TO PARIS HITS SNAG ENROUTE
CAAC LAUNCHED THE INAUGURAL FLIGHT OCTOBER 29 OF ITS REGULARLY SCHEDULED ONCE-WEEKLY PEKING TO PARIS SERVICE VIA KARACHI. USING A BOEING 707 AND CARRYING A SPECIAL GOODWILL DELEGATION, THE FLIGHT RAN INTO AN UNEXPECTED SNAG AND HAD TO MAKE AN UNSCHEDULED LANDING AT ANKARA. IT EVENTUALLY ARRIVED IN PARIS SEVEN AND A HALF HOURS LATE, ACCORDING TO A PARIS AFP RELEASE.
THE CAUSE OF THE UNSCHEDULED STOP AND DELAY IN ANKARA IS NOT YET KNOWN. AFP ANKARA (OCTOBER 30), CITING "RELIABLE SOURCES," REPORTS THAT THE PLANE WAS HELD UP UNTIL IT RECEIVED THE REQUIRED PERMITS TO FLY THROUGH TURKISH, GREEK AND BULGARIAN AIRSPACE. ACCORDING TO CONGEN RECORDS, THE PRC HAS AIR AGREEMENTS WITH TURKEY AND GREECE, THOUGH NOT WITH BULGARIA (HK A-105), NCNA OCTOBER 29), HOWEVER, LISTS PAKISTAN, IRAN, TURKEY, GREECE, ITALY, SWITZERLAND AS THE ROUTE TO BE FOLLOWED. IT IS NOT CLEAR HOW BULGARIA WOULD BE A FACTOR, UNLESS DIFFICULTIES AROSE IN OVERFLYING THE ISTANBUL-THESSALONIKI CORRIDOR WHICH HAS BEEN CLOSED SINCE THE CYPRUS CRISIS (ATHENS 7443). (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

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7. NORTHERN EUROPEAN VISITS TO PRC
DURING HIS VISIT TO THE PRC, WHERE HE SAW BOTH MAO
AND CHOU, DANISH PRIME MINISTER POUL HARTLING AND PRC
VICE PREMIER TENG HSIAO-PENG ON OCTOBER 21 SIGNED AN
AGREEMENT ON MARITIME TRANSPORT AND LETTERS ON THE ESTAB-
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LISHMENT OF A JOINT CHINESE-DANISH COMMITTEE FOR TRADE
PROMOTION AND FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF ECONOMIC RELATIONS
(NCNA). THE DANES HAD SUGGESTED AN ECONOMIC COOPERATION
AGREEMENT TO REPLACE THE BILATERAL TRADE AGREEMENT
(BEING TERMINATED AT THE END OF THE YEAR BECAUSE OF EC
PROHIBITIONS). THE CHINESE WERE UNINTERESTED, HOWEVER,
SO THE DANES MADE THE MORE MODES PROPOSAL OF A JOINT
TRADE COMMITTEE (COPENHAGEN 2775). THE PRC IN 1973 RAN
A $15 MILLION TRADE SURPLUS WITH DENMARK, A SITUATION
THE SEPTEMBER 1974 DANISH ELECTRONICS EXHIBITION IN PEKING
WAS PRESUMABLY DESINGED TO REDRESS.

ANOTHER NORDIC GOVERNMENTAL VISITOR TO PEKING WAS
THE NORWEGIAN MINISTER OF TRADE AND SHIPPING, EINAR
MAGNUSSEN, WHO ON OCTOBER 19 HAD A FRIENDLY TALK WITH PRC
VICE PREMIER LI HIIEN-NIEN (NCNA). THE PRC AND NORWAY
SIGNED A MARTIME TRANSPORT AGREEMENT AUGUST 2, 1974,
IN PEKING, AND AS A RESULT THE NUMBER OF NORWEGIAN
SHIPS CHARTERED TO THE PRC IS EXPECTED TO RISE HIGHER
THAN THE PRESENT 32 SHIPS (HK A-211 AND HK A-212).
FOLLOWING THE NORWEGIANS WERE THE DUTCH, WHO WERE
IN PEKING FOR THE FIRST MEETING OF THE JOINT CHINA-
NETHERLANDS ECONOMIC AND TRADE COMMITTEE. PRC FOREIGN
TRADE VICE MINISTER CHAI SHU-FAN HOSTED A BANQUET
OCTOBER 22 FOR THE DUTCH MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS
GENERAL DIRECTOR VAN OORSCHOT AND THE OTHER MEMBERS OF
THE DELEGATION. VAN OORSCHOT NEGOTIATED THE NOVEMBER
1973 AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING THE ANNUAL COMMITTEE MEETING.
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8. FIVE AGREEMENTS SIGNED WITH NORTH VIETNAM
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ON OCTOBER 26, FOUR AGREEMENTS WERE SIGNED COVERING PRC AID AND TRADE WITH NORTH VIETNAM. VICE PREMIER AND POLITBURO MEMBER LI HSIEN-NIEN AND HIS NORTH VIETNAMESE COUNTERPART, LE THANH NGHI, SIGNED THE 1975 AGREEMENT ON PRC ECONOMIC AND MILITARY AID TO NORTH VIETNAM. ALSO SIGNED WERE THE ANNUAL PROTOCOLS FOR 1975 ON PRC GRATIS MILITARY EQUIPMENT AND ON PRC GENERAL SUPPLIES AND THE AGREEMENT ON COMMODITY EXCHANGE AND PAYMENT IN 1975.

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SIGNING THESE LATTER THREE AGREEMENTS FOR THE PRC WERE
TRADE MINISTER LI CHIANG AND PLA GENERAL LOGISTICS
DEPARTMENT DEPUTY DIRECTOR FENG YUNG-SHUN. FOR THE
DRV IT WAS DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE LY BAN AND
A VICE MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENSE.
IN ANOTHER ASPECT OF THE RELATIONSHIP, ON THE
PREVIOUS DAY IN HANOI, CHIEN HSIN-CHUNG, HEAD OF THE
PRC HEALTH DELEGATION AND A VICE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND
VU VAN CAN, HEALTH DELEGATION HEAD AND NVN ACTING MINIS-
TER OF PUBLIC HEALTH SIGNED THE 1975-74 PLAN FOR THE
EXECUTION OF THE CHINA-VIETNAM PUBLIC HEALTH COOPERATION
AGREEMENT (NCNA). AS USUAL, NO DETAILS OF THE PROTOCOLS
AND AGREEMENTS WERE REPORTED.
VICE PREMIER LE THANH NGHI HAD HELD TALKS IN PEKING
AUGUST 1-8 ON ECONOMIC ASSISTANCEN, BUT, UNLIKE PREVIOUS
YEARS, NO ECONOMIC AND MILITARY AID AGREEMENTS WERE
SIGNED AT THAT TIME (ER 17, HK 9471). NCNA AND VNA
TREATMENT OF THIS WEEK'S SIGNING CEREMONIES INDICATES
A RESOLUTION OF WHATEVER THE PROBLEMS WERE, AND HANOI
NOW SEEMS SATISFIED. DIFFERENCES IN EMPHASIS REMAIN,
HOWEVER; PEKING'S STATEMENTS HIGHLIGHT ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE
FOR NORTH VIETNAM WHILE HANOI ADDS THAT THE AID WOULD
BE USED TO CONTINUE THE STRUGGLE IN THE SOUTH.
(LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

9. RECENT REPORTS ON ECONOMIC TOPICS
HK 11838 RELAXATION OF COCOM RESTRICTIONS
HK 11780 PRODUCING FOR EXPORT IN IMPORTANT TO
THE PRC
HK 11763 PRC PETROLEUM EXPORTS
HK 11723 HONG KONG'S TA KUNG PAO TWITS US ON MFN
HK 11717 HONGKONG TA KUNG PAO ON PRC FOREIGN
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HK 11668 PRC EXPORTS TO US MANUFACTURERS IN HK
PROPOSED BY AMCHAM
HK 11637 PRC COMMENTS ON MARKETS FOR EXPORTS
HK 11616 GRAVEYARDS TO BE FARMED
A-262 PRC FUELS VICE MINISTER REAPPEARS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION, ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, POLITICAL SUMMARIES, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974HONGK11922
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740314-0963
From: HONG KONG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741177/aaaacneg.tel
Line Count: 484
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 9
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: CERP 0003
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kelleyw0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 APR 2002 by rowelle0>; APPROVED <25-Sep-2002 by kelleyw0>
Review Markings:

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Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA -- ECONOMIC REVIEW 22
TAGS: ECRP, CH, XX
To: STATE
Type: TE
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